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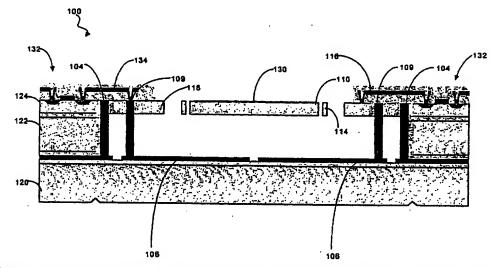
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(57) Abstract: A microelectromechanical system is fabricated from a substrate having a handle layer, a silicon sacrificial layer and a device layer. A micromechanical structure is etched in the device layer and the underlying silicon sacrificial layer is etched away to release the micromechanical structure for movement. One particular micromechanical structure described is a micromirror.

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INTE' ATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IFC 7 88183/00 8818 B81B7/02 G02B26/08 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) onto both riational classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) 8818 G02B Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC, COMPENDEX C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Category * Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages DE 198 47 455 A (BOSCH GMBH ROBERT) 1,3,19, X 21,27,32 27 April 2000 (2000-04-27) figures 4-11 column 8, line 61 -column 11, line 31 Α 2,4-18,20, 22-26, 28-31, 33-42 EP 0 834 759 A (MCNC) 23-26 8 April 1998 (1998-04-08) figures 1-5 column 2, line 27 -column 5, line 47 column 6, line 43 -column 13, line 25 1-22, Α 27-42 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: T' later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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